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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Sampath et al.

Examiner: D. Romeo

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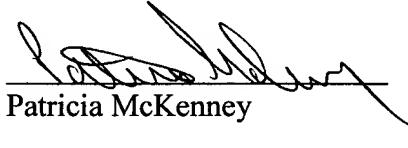
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The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 2, 2001.

  
Patricia McKenney

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

This is in response to the Office Action of July 2, 2001, in the above-identified patent application.

**REMARKS**

In the Office Action of July 2, 2001, claims 1 - 52 were subject to restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372. As a result of the restriction requirement, the Examiner has divided the